

San José State University Department of Art & Art History Art 198 ~ BFA Seminar, Section 01, Spring 2018	
Instructor:	G. Craig Hobbs
Class Days/Time:	Wednesdays 12pm – 2:45pm
Classroom:	Art 110
Email:	gcraig.hobbs@sjsu.edu
Office Location:	Art 319
Office Phone:	408-924-4401
Office Hours:	Wednesdays 10am – 12pm
Department Office Location:	Art 116
Department Website/ Email:	http://www.sjsu.edu/art/ art@sjsu.edu

Course Description

Art 198/ BFA Seminar addresses topics of culture, creativity and career planning for contemporary artists. Students will be required to present their artwork, articulating the ideas and processes in their creative practice as well as discussing the work of others. Students will bring a wide range of artistic methodologies, as well as diverse social and cultural contexts to the course. In this environment, students will actively participate in discussions addressing current topics while developing thesis and professional materials including - the BFA exhibition proposal, artist statement, bio, CV/ resume, cover letter and online portfolio in preparation for their Art 199/ BFA thesis exhibition(s).

Prerequisite: Prior acceptance into an Art and Art History BFA program.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Articulate their processes and methods as working artists in the 21st century through written, verbal and visual methods
- Participate in seminar discussion through readings, critique, and visual analysis
- Prototype their BFA exhibition through a written proposal and tech specification
- Generate an online artist portfolio using W3C compliant web technologies
- Write an artist statement, CV/ résumé, bio and cover letter
- Give a formal visual presentation, with discussion, of their artwork in class
- Work within deadlines, completing projects by agreed upon dates/ times

Course Readings & Written Responses

Students are required to complete all readings and come prepared to discuss assigned readings during the seminar *on the due date*. Students will complete reading responses and submit via Canvas in PDF format only. The rubric for reading responses will be provided in class. All assigned readings are listed in the course schedule provided below.

Artist Writing Assignments (CV, Bio, Artist Statement + Artist Portfolio)

You are required to produce an artist statement, artist bio, resume/ CV (curriculum vitae) and cover letter in the course of the semester. In addition, you will be required to produce an online portfolio of creative work. These will be dynamic, working documents addressing the ambitions, influences, materials and methods of your creative practice.

Seminar Discussion and Visual Lecture/ Classroom Protocol

As a seminar course, the semester will be devoted to discussion of both assigned readings and group discussion of your own creative work. Participation in the group dialogue is a required and graded aspect of this seminar course. Visual presentation is also a key component of the course. Using a visual culture approach, the course fosters discussion through representation in multiple media formats including digital slides, audio, video, books, physical artworks, performances, artifacts, events, websites and other formats. As a seminar course, you are expected to attend class and will be required to participate in discussion, group critiques, and creative production. The seminar format is most effective through active participation by students sharing their perspectives and voices.

Canvas CMS

Copies of course materials - the syllabus, readings and course updates - are available via the SJSU Canvas course management system (CMS) <https://sjsu.instructure.com/>
<https://sjsu.instructure.com> *All papers must be submitted via Canvas in PDF format only.* Canvas will also be used for announcements and any changes to the course schedule. Please make sure your Canvas contact works. Canvas is used extensively for this course.

Collaboration and Groups

Students working together will be graded based upon the success of the group, and should therefore plan accordingly to define roles and assure equal participation amongst collaborators at the beginning of group activities. Please inform the professor if you are having difficulties with the collaborative dynamic in your group before problems arise.

Art and Art History Librarian

The Art and Art History library liaison is **Aliza Elkin**, an excellent resource for academic and creative research. You can contact Aliza via email at [http://aliza.elkin@sjsu.edu](mailto:aliza.elkin@sjsu.edu) or 408-808-2043 for further assistance. The New Media LibGuides library page is located here ~ <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/NewMedia>

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs Syllabus Information web page located here ~ <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Department Advising

For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for change of major/minor forms and a list of advisors: <http://www.sjsu.edu/art/> Visit the Art & Art History department office in ART 116, 408-924-4320, or via email art@sjsu.edu

Assignments and Grading Policy

Assignment prompts and full details will be provided via the Canvas CMS. All submission requirements are defined in the assignment prompt. See course schedule for complete topics and dates. The course schedule provides dates, topics, and assignments *due on the day they are listed in the schedule, unless otherwise noted.*

Graded Course Assignments	
4 x reading responses (5% each)	20%
Artist Bio	5%
Artist Statement	10%
Artist CV/ Résumé + Cover Letter	10%
Online portfolio of creative work	15%
In-class formal artist presentation	10%
BFA exhibition proposal, sketch & technical specification	10%
Participation in weekly meetings and group discussion	20%
Total	100%

Grading Policy/ Rubric

A = 100 - 90% ~ Excellent = Student exhibits exemplary effort at comprehension and application of the course curriculum. Works is submitted on time, with attention to detail.

B = 89 - 80% ~ Average = Student completes assignments, and demonstrates a grasp of key concepts. Student participates actively in the classroom through seminar discussion.

C = 79 - 70% ~ Below Average = Student completes the assignment but may lack enthusiasm or drive to push the work into a detailed creative or critical space. The work lacks creative and aesthetic effort. Student is not engaged in the classroom environment.

D = 69 - 60% ~ Unsatisfactory = Student does not complete the work as assigned. Substantial problems exist in student's work. Lack of commitment is clearly evident.

F = < 60% ~ Fail = Student does not submit work, or work is below unsatisfactory level.

Late Work Policy

Work is considered late if posted after the due date/time. The default time for submission of work is the beginning of class, unless specified otherwise in the schedule. For each day the work is late (marked each 24 hours by the day and time of original deadline), the work decreases by half a grade (a B+ goes to B-, a B- to a C+, etc.)

Art 198 Course Schedule ~ Spring 2018

The course schedule provides dates, topics, and assignments due on the day they are listed in the schedule. If it is in blue, it is due!

Week	Date	Topics, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/24	<p>Introductions, course intro, syllabus, Q&A</p> <p>Reading assignment #1 (2 readings) - 10 Paradoxical Traits of Creative People by Faisal Hoque + 18 Habits Of Highly Creative People by Carolyn Gregoire</p> <p>+ Install XMind ZEN software https://www.xmind.net/zen/</p>
2	01/31	<p>Seminar discussion on Readings #1 + XMind Zen mind mapping software workshop</p> <p>Assignment Due = 1-page PDF reading response on Reading #1</p> <p>Reading assignment #2 (3 readings) - Excerpts from AKADEMIE X: Lessons in Art + Life by Stephanie Syjuco + The Four-Hour Art Week? Carol Bove's Self-Help Guide for Artists by Carol Bove + Letter from Bruce Conner The Brooklyn Rail</p>
3	02/07	<p>Seminar discussion on Readings #2 + Review artist mind maps in class (assignment due by Noon on 02/07)</p> <p>Assignments Due = 1-page PDF reading response on Readings #2 + artist mind mapping assignment in PDF format</p> <p>Reading assignment #3 – Creativity Connects Final Report by the Center for Cultural Innovation/ National Endowment for the Arts Note: Read and be prepared to discuss pages 7-22 only!!!</p>
4	02/14	<p>Seminar discussion on Readings #3 + Preparing your BFA Exhibition proposal, Art 199 and other thesis matters workshop</p> <p>Assignment Due = 2-page PDF reading response on Reading #3</p> <p>Reading assignment #4 - Art-Write: Creating Effective Artist Statements by Vicki Krohn Amorose</p>
5	02/21	<p>Seminar discussion and visual lecture on Reading #4 + Workshop in creating an effective artist statement</p> <p>Note: No assignment due this week. Instead, work on your draft BFA exhibition proposal, sketch and technical specification due 02/28</p>

Week	Date	Topics, Assignments, Deadlines
6	02/28	Artist Statement workshop ~ Writing an effective artist statement Assignment Due = Draft BFA Exhibition proposal, sketch, technical specification + completed copy of Art 199 form (4 pages in total – PDF format only)
7	03/07	Artist CV/ bio workshop ~ Creating an artist CV/ résumé + bio Assignment Due = Artist statement draft
8	03/14	Portfolio workshop I ~ Building an effective online artist portfolio Assignment Due = Artist CV/ résumé + bio draft
9	03/21	Portfolio workshop II ~ High-impact artist presentations + online artist portfolio workshop
10	03/28	Spring Break ~ No Class!
11	04/04	Portfolio review, critique and revisions Assignment Due = Online artist portfolio draft due
12	04/11	Spring ATC ~ Attend ATC presentations
13	04/18	Final presentations collaborative workshop and copy editing
14	04/25	Final Artist Presentations I Assignment Due = Final CV, Bio, Artist Statement + Portfolio
15	05/02	Final Artist Presentations II Assignment Due = Final CV, Bio, Artist Statement + Portfolio
16	05/09	Course assessment and final review for exam
Final Exam	05/16	Wednesday, May 16th 9:45am – 12:00pm in Art 110

Note: This schedule is subject to change. You will be notified of any changes in a timely manner. Any changes will not impact your ability to complete assigned coursework.